



CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-HOUR REPORT

24 FEBRUARY 2021

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) Oakland – Police Monitored Alleged Gun Sale on Security Camera, Leading to Federal Charges

(U) Nathaniel Dickens, 32, faces up to 10 years in federal prison and a \$250,000 fine if convicted of the lone felony gun possession charge. Using a city surveillance camera footage at the apartment complex, officers watched Dickens walk up to the parking lot carrying a duffel bag and meet with several others. When housing authority officers drove up in a squad car, the group scattered, and Dickens left the duffel bag. Officers discovered an AR-15 rifle with two loaded “high capacity” magazines that were hitched together, making it easier to reload, according to the complaint.

SOURCE: 23 February 2021, [Mercury News](#)

(U) Ontario – Driver Rams Three Cruisers, Shot Dead by Officer

(U) A man was shot dead by an Ontario police officer following a short late-night vehicle pursuit in which three department cruisers were rammed, officials said. Officers had tried to pull a motorist over for a vehicle code violation when he fled, Ontario Police Cpl. Emily Hernandez said. After a brief pursuit, the man, pursued by at least three police cruisers, drove onto a short dead-end road. There, the driver rammed into three police cars, Hernandez said. One officer who had exited a police vehicle opened fire, striking the man, Lt. Bill Russell said. Paramedics from the Ontario Fire Department declared the man dead at the scene.

SOURCE: 23 February 2021, [LA Times](#)

(U) SOUTHWEST BORDER

(U) California – CBP Seizes More Than 12K Pounds of Cannabis, Estimated at \$27 Million

(U) San Diego – Customs and Border Protection officers (CBP) found more than 12,000 pounds of cannabis, with an estimated street value of \$27 million, mixed in with a shipment of papayas at the Otay Mesa port of entry, authorities said. Officers discovered the illicit cargo when an X-ray machine revealed anomalies in the trailer of a big rig, at a crossing area for commercial vehicles. A drug-sniffing dog then zeroed in on the cannabis, and a search of the trailer turned up 873 wrapped packages of cannabis mixed in with the fresh papayas, authorities said.

SOURCE: 23 February 2021, [San Diego Tribune](#)

(U) Texas – CBP Officers Intercept Cocaine Worth over \$1 Million

(U) Rio Grande City – CBP officers at the Starr-Camargo International Bridge intercepted cocaine with an estimated street value of more than \$1 million. The seizure occurred when CBP officers encountered a tractor hauling an empty trailer arriving from Mexico. The tractor and trailer were referred to CBP secondary for further examination. In secondary, with the aid of a non-intrusive imaging system, CBP officers discovered 63 packages containing 146 pounds of alleged cocaine concealed within the trailer. The estimated street value of the narcotics from the seizure is approximately \$1,126,489.

SOURCE: 23 February 2021, [CBP](#)

(U) NATIONAL

(U) District of Columbia – Twitter Removes Hundreds of Accounts Linked to Iran, Russia, Armenia

(U) Washington – Twitter says it had taken down 373 accounts which it said had ties to Russia, Armenia and Iran and had breached its platform manipulation policies. The company said it had taken down 238 accounts operating from Iran for various violations of its policies. Twitter said 100 accounts with Russian ties were removed for amplifying narratives that undermined faith in NATO and targeted the United States and the European Union. It also said 35 accounts with ties to Armenia were taken down, adding that they had been created to target Azerbaijan.

SOURCE: 23 February 2021, [US News](#)

(U) District of Columbia – Oath Keepers Leader Committed "Crime of Terrorism" in Capitol Riot

(U) Washington – An Oath Keepers leader, Jessica Watkins, committed a "crime of terrorism" when she "gleefully" participated in a mob that stormed the US Capitol, prosecutors said. Watkins was indicted this month on four charges, one of which was aiding and abetting the destruction of government property — a crime that, if found to be politically motivated, could be considered terrorism. Prosecutors argued that because Watkins' actions were "calculated to influence or affect the conduct of government," it amounted to a federal crime of terrorism and meant that she should be detained before trial.

SOURCE: 23 February 2021, [CBS News](#)

(U) District of Columbia – SolarWinds Hackers Targeted NASA, FAA Networks

(U) Washington – Hackers are said to have broken into the networks of US space agency NASA and the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) as part of a wider espionage campaign targeting US government agencies and private companies. NASA and the FAA are the two remaining unnamed agencies of the nine government agencies confirmed to have been breached by the attack. The other seven include the Departments of Commerce, Energy, Homeland Security, Justice and State, the Treasury and the National Institutes of Health, though it's not believed the attackers breached their classified networks.

SOURCE: 23 February 2021, [TechCrunch](#)

(U) Florida – Former University of Florida Student Indicted for Attempting to Assist ISIS

(U) Gainesville – A federal grand jury has formally indicted a former University of Florida student accused of attempting to assist the terrorist organization ISIS. Mohamed Suliman was indicted on charges of attempting to provide material support to the terrorist organization. Court records reveal that during a 2018 interview, an FBI agent said Suliman told authorities he takes medication for his depression, and when he is off his medication, he goes from being a "Moderate muslim" to a "Jihadist muslim." According to officials, Suliman left Gainesville, traveled to Turkey, and attempted to enter Syria illegally in 2014 in order to join and support ISIS.

SOURCE: 23 February 2021, [WCJB](#)

(U) New York – Former NYPD Officer Charged in 6 January Attack on Capitol Police

(U) New York City – A retired NYPD officer who had been assigned for a time to work perimeter security at City Hall and at Gracie Mansion, the mayor's official residence, has been accused of using a pipe to attack a US Capitol officer during the 6 January siege. Thomas Webster surrendered to the FBI's Hudson Valley office to face charges in the ongoing investigation. Prosecutors said the former US Marine attacked a Capitol police officer with an aluminum pole while holding a Marine Corps flag.

SOURCE: 23 February 2021, [NBC New York](#)

UNCLASSIFIED

(U) Texas – Man Arrested for Terroristic Threat After IEDs Found in His Home

(U) Williams County – A man has been arrested by the Williamson County Sheriff's Office (WCSO) after deputies found improvised explosive devices (IEDs) inside his home. WCSO said 47-year-old John Christopher Crawson was arrested for the offense of terroristic threat against a family member, a third-degree felony. According to WCSO, an investigation revealed that Crawson had made IEDs inside his home. WCSO then contacted the Austin Police Department Bomb Unit and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives to assist them.

SOURCE: 23 February 2021, [KVUE](#)

(U) INTERNATIONAL

(U) Nigeria – At Least 10 Dead and 47 Injured in Suspected Boko Haram Attack

(U) Borno State – An attack by suspected Boko Haram militants in the Nigerian north-eastern city of Maiduguri in Borno state has killed at least 10 people and injured 47 others. State governor Babagana Zulum said the attackers fired rocket propelled grenades into densely populated areas in the city, including a children's playground. He said the grenades were launched from the outskirts of the city. Pictures released by local authorities show dozens of injured people in hospital, including children.

SOURCE: 24 February 2021, [BBC](#)

(U) Sweden – Supporters of Jailed Militant Group Member Target Home of Greek president

(U) Athens – Supporters of a jailed gunman from an armed extreme-left group evaded security to protest outside the Athens home of Greece's president. Dimitris Koufodinas, 63, is serving 11 life sentences for murder, armed robbery and use of firearms and explosives as a leading member of the militant group 17 November, whose members remained at large for decades until a botched bomb attack in 2002. His supporters have staged multiple protests including a recent firebomb attack at the entrance of a private television station and vandalizing the entrance of a building used as a private office by Greece's minister of education.

SOURCE: 23 February 2021, [ABC News](#)

(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.

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